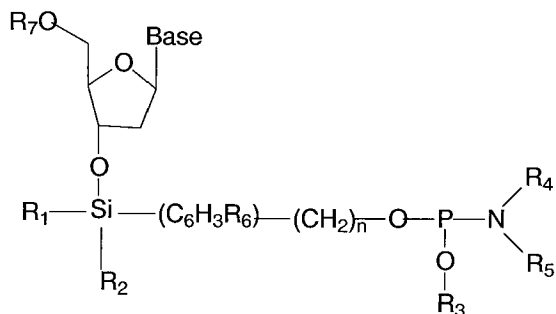


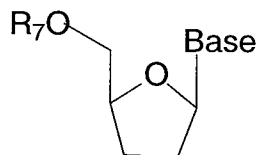
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A compound represented by the following formula:

(I)



wherein

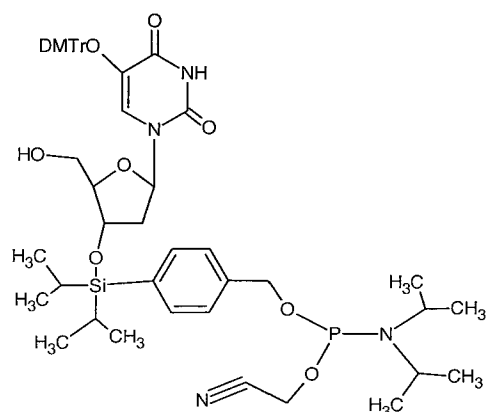


of formula I represents a 2'-deoxyribonucleoside or its N-protected derivative, the substituent -O-(R₁)Si(R₂)-(C₆H₃R₆)-(CH₂)_n-O-P(OR₃)N(R₄)(R₅) is attached at the 3' position of the sugar moiety of the nucleoside substituent; each of R₁, R₂, R₄ and R₅ is an alkyl or optionally substituted aryl group, wherein the optionally substituted aryl group has a substituent selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₅ alkyl, nitro, cyano, halo and methoxyl; R₃ is a protecting group; R₆ substituent of the benzene ring -(C₆H₃R₆)- is selected from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₄ alkyl, halo, nitro, cyano and methoxyl; R₇ is H or 4,4'-dimethoxytrityl; and n is an integer of from 1 to 5.

2. (Previously Presented) The compound according to Claim 1 wherein R₁ and R₂ are independently a C₁₋₅ alkyl.
3. (Previously Presented) The compound according to Claim 1 wherein R₁ and R₂ are independently substituted aryl.

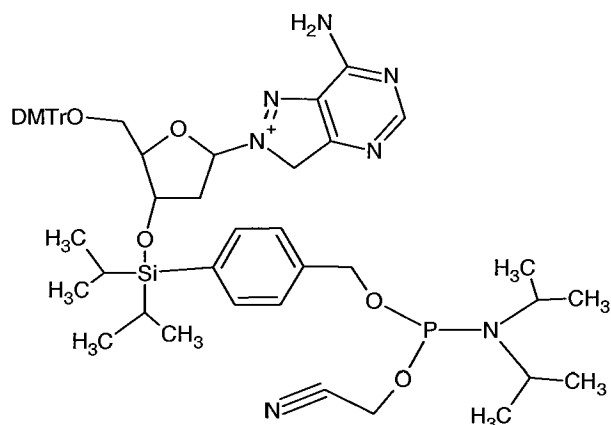
4. (Previously Presented) The compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 3 wherein the protecting group R_3 is 2-cyanoethyl, 4-nitrophenylethyl, N-(trifluoroacetyl)aminobutyl, or 4-[N-methyl-N-(2,2,2-trifluoroacetyl)amino]butyl.
5. (Previously Presented) The compound according to Claim 4 wherein the protecting group R_3 is 2-cyanoethyl.
6. (Previously Presented) The compound according to Claim 1 wherein each of R_4 and R_5 is independently C_{1-4} alkyl, benzyl, phenyl, or naphthyl.
7. (Previously Presented) The compound according to Claim 1 wherein each of R_4 and R_5 is independently isopropyl.
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Previously Presented) The compound according to Claim 1 wherein R_6 is selected from the group consisting of C_{1-4} alkyl, halo, nitro, cyano and methoxy.

10. (Previously Presented) A compound having the structure



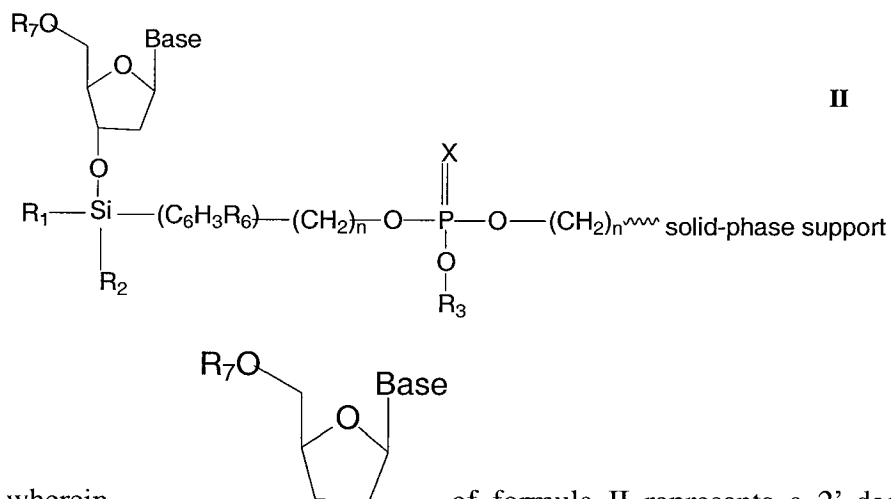
wherein DMTr is 4,4'-dimethoxytrityl.

11. (Previously Presented) A compound having the structure



wherein DMTr is 4,4'-dimethoxytrityl.

12. (Previously Presented) A solid-phase support having a 3'-end nucleoside unit introduced thereon as represented by formula II:



wherein of formula II represents a 2'-deoxyribonucleoside or its N-protected derivative, the substituent $\text{---O(R}_1\text{)Si(R}_2\text{)---(C}_6\text{H}_3\text{R}_6\text{)---(CH}_2\text{)}_n\text{---O---P(OR}_3\text{)(XO)---(CH}_2\text{)}_n$ is attached at the 3' position of the sugar moiety of the nucleoside substituent; each of R_1 and R_2 is an alkyl or optionally substituted aryl group, wherein the optionally substituted aryl group has a substituent selected from the group consisting of C_{1-4} alkyl, nitro, cyano, halo and methoxyl; R_3 is a protecting group; X is S or O; R_7 is H or 4,4'-dimethoxytrityl; each n is an integer of from 1 to 5; and the solid-phase support has hydroxyl groups on its surface.

13. (Previously Presented) The solid-phase support according to Claim 12 having the 3'-end nucleoside units present at a ratio of 20-30 $\mu\text{mol/g}$.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously Presented) The solid-phase support of claim 12, wherein the solid-phase support is a highly cross-linked polystyrene (HCP).

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)